THE SHAKERITE

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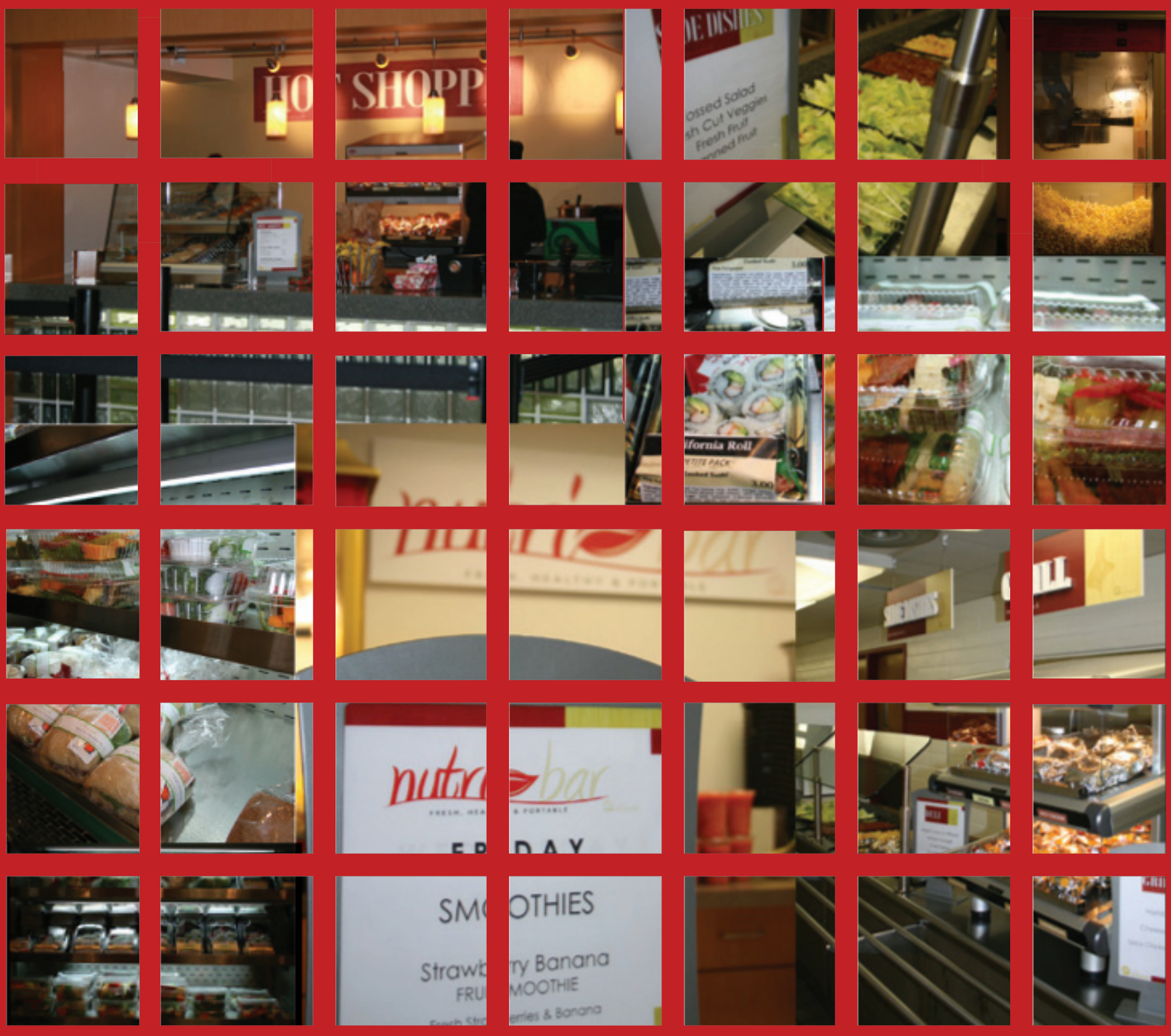

• At last, the cafeteria has been nutritionally renovated. Now offering a wide variety of healthy, yet mouth-watering platters, including hand-rolled sushi, deli-fresh hoagies and fresh fruit and yogurt smoothies, the cafeteria has seen lines lengthen and brown-bag lunches dwindle. Check out the Editors' Note to see our opinion on the shift!

EDITOR'S NOTE, PAGE 2

What's Inside

01.14.09

COVER SHOT

The cafeteria and its food both received a gigantic overhaul during winter break. Now, the food is healthier, featuring sushi and nutritious sandwiches, and two totally new stations, the Hot Shoppe and the Nutri Bar brighten the once-bland area. Alhough students complain of high prices, the improvement is an excellent one.

DIANA JACK

EDITOR'S NOTE

Three cheers for edible food

The cafeteria has come a long way since freshman year. Our first days here were enough to turn us off from the radioactive cheese on the nachos at the snack bar and the three-day-old pie and Beef-a-roni in the lunch lines.

Sophomore year wasn't much better, as we hid on stairwells and in unused classrooms to eat our brown-bag lunches while security guards yelled at us to quiet down.

DIANA JACK

After the renovation of the cafeteria last year, we were more willing to eat there, but only because the new space allowed us to escape the lunchline stench. Finally, the cafeteria provides both an enjoyable atmosphere and edible food.

Congratulations, high school cafeteria, you have earned our respect.

However, the cafeteria still reeks of economic issues. While buying a full lunch for $2.75 is actually a fantastic deal, most students don't realize that buying the WHOLE lunch is what makes it cheap. Complaints about the price of a la carte items abound, to the dismay of the administration. Principal Michael Griffith explained that purchasing a tuna sandwich alone is a worse deal than making it part of a "combo" in which you receive side dishes and milk for $2.75.

ALEXA SYKES

This is a shrewd business move by the school. We don't buy the combos but are willing to shell out three bucks for a tasty petite pack of sushi or $3.25 for some delicious soup. It seems the administration is trying to draw students who usually don't buy lunch. Perhaps the administration realized that the majority of students who ate in the cafeteria in past years had to. Whatever the reason, it's obvious the school figured they would make more money by appealing to brown-baggers with salads, smoothies and sushi.

The most obvious reason for enticing people to eat at school is so that the school can eventually close campus. The announcement on the first day back from break said it: "The new food is healthier, faster and less expensive . . . than going out." Along with changes such as voluntary closed campus for freshmen and sophomores, luring students into the cafeteria instead of compelling them to their cars is one of many steps to a more regulated campus.

Whatever the reasons for the changes to the menu and the décor, a round of applause to the administration for finally nourishing and pleasing its students.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR THIS MONTH

SPLURGE NO MORE

Tired of shelling out hundreds of dollars for fresh kicks and trendy threads? A collaborative effort between The Beat and Limelight provides suggestions for pinching pennies while staying fly.

BEATLIGHT, PAGES 4 AND 5

CONTROVERY CAUSES CANCELLATION

Gone are the days of profanity and intoxication polluting the student section of Thornton's ice arena at the U.S. hockey game. Find out why Coach Bartley finally decided to pull the biggest rivalry game of the season.

RAIDER ZONE, PAGE 8

HOPE BEGINS WITH INAUGURATION

With Obama taking office next week, the Editorial Board presents its hopes for the new administration in Shaker Speaks.

SHAKER SPEAKS, PAGE 7

THE SHAKERITE

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NSPA

FEBRUARY

This Month

01.14.09

Photo by Neal Hamilton

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Early Dismissal	3 Cleveland Cavaliers vs. Toronto Raptors at The O 7 p.m.	4 Girls Basketball vs. Mentor Home 7:30 p.m.	5	6 Swimming vs. Mayfield at Woodbury Pool 6 p.m.	7 Winter Ball at the high school from 8-11 p.m.
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day
15 Michael Franti & Spearhead at House of Blues 8 p.m.	16 President's Day NO SCHOOL	17	18	19	20 Boys Basketball vs. Cleveland Heights at Home 7:30 p.m.	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Sankofa at the high school 7 p.m.	28 The Cleveland Blues Festival at the Palace Theatre 9 p.m.

RAGTIME REVIEW

"Ragtime" offered a 180-degree turn from previous Theatre Arts Department productions. Diversity, usually lacking, was prevalent mostly due to the Harlem company, which provided the standout voices in most numbers. In particular, junior Ryan Thurman, as Coalhouse Walker Jr., a pianist and eventually a radical gunman, raised goosebumps with his rendition of "Make Them Hear You." The "Gettin' Ready Rag," choreographed by Pamela Corbin, was a dance number like none I have ever seen in a department that usually sticks to loosely choreographed modern dance pieces. Other highlights included the interactions between Harry Houdini (junior Brandon Mercer) and Evelyn Nesbit (senior Alyssa Taylor), the full company number "Till We Reach That Day" and Mother's (junior Elizabeth Shick) performance during some of the plot climaxes.

KELSEY DEFOREST

The technical elements blended smoothly into the story. The set created a cityscape that served the action well. Though the use of projection to shift scenes was jarring, given the limited space on stage it was the best option to create the many unique environments. Donna Dehn deserves praise for exceeding expectations in her first year as the conductor for a musical. She was lively and animated, making the orchestra become part of the magic of the show.

The only fault of the production lay in the direction. It was often difficult to hear the actors who did not wear body microphones. The department might benefit from spending more time teaching the students how to project. Additionally, any audience member sitting outside of front and center was sure to miss at least some action due to poor staging, particularly during the climactic death of one of the secondary characters. Similarly, interaction between the main stage and thrust (the part of the stage that juts out past the frame of the main stage) seemed awkward and illogically constructed, with actors who were supposed to be watching their children play looking instead into the audience and discussing action happening behind them. The department should continue to put on shows of this style, but must work for stronger, more logical staging.

5 minute critic

Student 1: "I'd rather be in warm weather anyway."
Student 2: "I'd rather be in...ebriated."

"Last night I dropped my computer on my face"

"Are you wearing a fake butt?"

"Has anyone ever tried Diet Coke?"

heard in the halls

$PLURGE $AVE OR $PLURGE

• Need a novel idea to lift you out of the recession blues? How about spending a little less for clothes you love? Here, Limelight and The Beat combine forces to present Beatlight, a section that focuses on fashion that's friendly to your wallet. Check out our Save and Splurge models to get an idea of where your money's going and where you can cut corners.

$PLURGE

Total Cost: $713

$AVE

Total Cost: $38

Cash crunch alters fashionable pursuits

ADRIA KINNEY
THE BEAT EDITION

Coupon clipping and penny pinching are more important now than ever, and designer jeans or couture shoes are often the first things to be cut from the budget.

Senior Erin Bozarth believes that, in light of the weak economy, saving is important. "I didn't really spend a lot of money on clothes to begin with, because I just don't think it's that important. But with the recent happenings, I've started to save money on more important things, and go through my old clothes and see how I can still use them," Bozarth said.

However, spending in a recession is not necessarily bad, according to Shaker Economics teacher Diana Jones, and would actually stimulate the economy. "Consumers have always led the country out of economic recessions," Jones said. The problem is that consumers have to feel optimistic to spend. "Although the decline in retail sales has driven prices down, consumers are holding off on purchasing for many reasons," Jones said.

"They have to have positive expectations about their employment, their income, and their futures. We have to see them thinking that things are going to get better."

And, surely, some are still spending, like senior Brandon Kilgore. Kilgore spends about $200 a month on clothing, mainly on jeans and sweaters. All the same, even Kilgore has had to adjust his usual routine.

"I wouldn't say that I've changed my behavior, but I do bargain shopping now," he said. "Instead of getting one pair of jeans for, like, $100, I may get three or four pairs now." Kilgore also said that he has many friends who have started going to thrift stores and consignment shops. " I support that 100 percent," Kilgore said.

Admittedly, the country's wealthiest shoppers still shop, albeit secretly. In a recent New York Times article, Allure magazine editor Maggie Buckley said, "Shopping is almost embarrassing, and a little vulgar right now."

Sophomore Alexis Payne, who spends $400 every two weeks on clothing, said that spending can make her feel guilty.

"I do feel bad, but when I'm shopping, I'm in the zone and I can't really think about all the poor people," Payne said. Payne also donates all of her old clothes to charity, which she believes offsets her spending. "I never throw my old clothes away," Payne said.

WHAT'S A CONSIGNMENT STORE?

Consignment shops are similar to thrift stores in that people donate their old clothing to the stores to be sold. However, at a consignment shop, the donor receives a portion of the sale's proceeds. Check out local consignment stores such as The Red Geranium in North Royalton or The Suite Lorain in Cleveland. Consignment stores have seen a recent increase in popularity, but do not always carry popular clothing. A sales representative for The Suite Lorain, located at 7105 Lorain Avenue, said that the store carries vintage clothing from the 1940s to 1970s but does not have designer labels.

Thrift store finds: Pouffy party dresses, glam green belt, individual style

SIMONE DUVAL

From Ralph Lauren runway shows to Teen Vogue fashion spreads, allocating enough money to spend on monthly trends is difficult when all that's presented to teenagers is the cream of couture. It's difficult to create a wardrobe that truly reflects your sense of style when you know fellow classmates evaluate your personality based on what brands and trends you're sporting and whether you've been to the mall lately.

When I entered the high school in 2005, you weren't cool if you didn't have a huge moose emblazoned across your chest, or if "American Eagle" wasn't written on the half the tags in your closet. Though I, along with the majority of my friends, had grown out of this phase by sophomore year, the focus of the student fashion world continued to evolve.

From the PINK collection of Victoria's Secret, to clothing from Forever 21, J.Crew attire, Lacoste polos, to anything found at Nordstrom's and Anthropologie, the list of acceptable brands was endless, as long as they had one thing in common: they were expensive.

Teenage magazines validated this concept, and still do; they depict happy adolescents transformed from style-ignorant to style-savvy in before and after photographs. The made-over girls instantly shine when styled in brand-name, pricey clothing, most of which they could never afford. It's as if the knowledge that their attire is more expensive gives them a new self-confidence and reinforces the belief that the price tag makes the clothing even more special. In some ways, it does; paying that much for one outfit can make certain customers think twice about buying high-end clothing again.

Coveting and admiring expensive clothing is nothing new. As staples of American culture, materialism and day-to-day shopping have transformed us into a people who literally shop for happiness. We believe the satisfaction gained from buying something we can (or can't) afford and look good in will alleviate problems with academics, work, relationships or any number of things. Even a term -- retail therapy – has arisen to describe drowning one's sorrows in the next department store sale. Costly clothing appears to be the answer to everything; we show our devotion to our bodies by clothing them in $200 cashmere and $170 Citizens denim.

Maybe we think that if we spent less, it would mean we didn't value ourselves as much.

But really, what is so different about this "better" clothing? Brands are what they are: clothing with a name. What distinguishes those American Apparel V-necks from the non-descript pack of T-shirts found at Target? And to contradict those who claim that brand-name clothing is of higher quality, why were those Abercrombie graphic tees always the first to show signs of wear and tear? Obviously, the name is what gives the clothes (and clothed) the power.

Rip off the Burberry tag, and it's really just a scarf. Cut away the Sevens stitches, and they're really just a pair of jeans.

I'm not trying to insinuate that I am a brand-hater, fashion scourge, or style slummer. On the contrary, I love dressing up, having that outfit that no one else has, and yes, even I will admit to owning a pair of UGGs (I subscribe to a friend's theory that they're a necessary evil).

But I don't think that spending hundreds of dollars or more on clothes is logical; in fact, it's downright ridiculous. Moreover, no matter how often retailers claim clothing is "high-end" or "limited-edition" and flying off the racks, the truth is that thousands of shoppers across the nation are buying the exact same thing.

To avoid matching outfits with half of the female high school population, and to ensure that your piggy bank remains in one piece, I offer two pieces of advice. First, wait until clothes go on sale, as they inevitably will a month after they're first stocked in stores. EXPRESS stores are a perfect example of this, as they always debut new in-store trends that barely last three weeks before they're advertised as on sale.

But in terms of when to buy what types of clothes, according to ConsumerReports.org, the "largest nonprofit educational and consumer product testing center in the world," the best times to go shopping for particular garments are in the off-season. Looking for that perfect swimsuit? Shop around in January, when retailers are trying to unload their unsold merchandise on the cruise-taking crowd. I bought my favorite slouchy boots in mid-July from Urban Outfitters, down $48 from their original winter price.

Another way to get the most bang for your buck is to search for style inspirations in fashion magazines and on the runway, and then rummage around in thrift stores like Unique Thrift to find your own version of current trends. During my thrifting expeditions, I've found everything from pouffy party dresses and outrageous high heels to leopard-print bodysuits and glamorous green belts. But I've rarely ever spent more than $30 for adding dozens of unique garments to my wardrobe.

My philosophy is simple: spend $100 or more for people's thoughts, or spend less than $30 for your own.

top 5 INEXPENSIVE STORES

1. TARGET
2. FILENE'S BASEMENT
3. T.J.maxx
4. PLATO'S CLOSET
5. Marshalls

Compiled by Julia Celeste

NoteWorthy

01.14.09

SPEAK UP ABOUT AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

In light of a recent county grant from the Cleveland Foundation, Shaker is one of eight communities participating in the Shaker Youth Center's plan to create more after school activities for students. According to Tameka Taylor, youth liaison at the center, the main reason to create new clubs "is to give young people things to do." A town meeting will be held Feb. 4 in the large auditorium open to all students and parents. "We hope to get the community input on what the community would like to see," she said. Students are free to voice their own opinions on what will be the best way to spend the grant.

NATALIE VICCHIO

the breakdown

The bailout and you

Let's face it: between economic meltdowns and the ins and outs of health care reform, the news out there is becoming more and more confusing but no less important. With that in mind, each month The Shakerite will break down one news story you should know and explain why you should care. This month, the economic crisis and how it is affecting college costs is the focus.

BAILING OUT WALL STREET

Unless you were on an extended vacation, you probably heard or read at least one news story that included the words mortgage, foreclosure, Wall Street and bailout. As the financial system broke down, the stories became more complicated. Here are the essential facts in plain English:

Banks loaned money to many people who wanted to buy houses but couldn't afford to pay back the loans. The banks then sold the loans, or mortgages, as investments on Wall Street. When people fell behind in paying back their mortgage payments, the banks took back, or foreclosed on, their houses, and the investors who bought the mortgages could not get their money back.

Many investment firms and banks approached or filed for bankruptcy, and the federal government decided to bail them out with $700 billion of taxpayers' money. In the meantime, businesses failed as nervous people who lost jobs or investments stopped spending money, even during the holiday season. People who study the economy now say the United States is experiencing a recession, an extended time when businesses struggle to survive.

SO, WHY DOES THIS MATTER TO US?

When the economy suffers, the effects trickle down from Wall Street to individuals and local governments. Because of the recession, Ohio is cutting the state budget by 25 percent beginning July 1. The cuts will affect all state agencies, including the Ohio Board of Regents, which controls higher education. So, the budget cut will affect tuition, financial aid and state grants and scholarships. Tuition and fees at state universities are predicted to increase by about $2000 a year.

In recent years, up to 62 percent of Shaker seniors have gone on to Ohio universities, so a majority of students will feel the financial pressure when they head for college. The Ohio State University is a popular choice for seniors (65 current seniors applied to OSU) but future Buckeyes should not count on help from scholarships and grants. The state is cutting about $120 million from the OSU budget. In addition to reduced student aid, OSU may have to make large faculty cuts or possibly shut down regional campuses.

These tuition hikes arrive after a 25-year period of enormous increases in college costs. According to the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, college tuition and fees increased by 439 percent between 1982 and 2007. Meanwhile, the average family income has not kept up, rising only 147 percent. Despite the increases, states feeling extra budget stress are limiting financial aid based on merit and offering mostly need-based aid. But, many families will still make too much money for need-based aid yet not enough to pay the rising tuition bill.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Even though Ohio tuition is rising, Principal Michael Griffith suggests students consider in-state schools because the cost of living is lower closer to home. "They maybe have to be willing to look at [which] are the cost-efficient settings," Griffith said. To apprehensive college-bound students with financial difficulties, Griffith suggests taking advantage of all possible opportunities. "Really take the time [to] explore all the scholarship opportunities," he said, adding that corporate scholarships, scholarships that are provided by corporations, would be especially helpful. Companies like Wal-Mart and Best Buy are good examples of companies who have student aid programs. Griffith said it is essential for people to "scrutinize more" when looking for financial help. "It's not all dried up; it's still there," he said.

Compiled by Victoria Fydrych

Allie Levin • The Shakerite

ADVISER JAMES SCHMIDT accepts a senior project application Dec. 15. By the initial deadline, approximately 40 percent of the senior class turned in forms. Although project is no longer mandatory, Schmidt said that the "the kids who are turning [the applications] in are really enthusiastic about it." He is unsure if the school will implement mandatory project in future years. Principal Michael Griffith suggested that requiring senior project posed challenges. "We don't anticipate that everything will be perfectly in place this year."

PROJECT NO LONGER MANDATORY

BY NATALIE VICCHIO
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

A review of the new senior project guidelines resulted in the elimination of mandatory participation.

Senior project advisers James Schmidt, Andrea Bradd and Kathleen Fleming along with Principal Michael Griffith discussed the initial senior project after students complained. "Griffith and I both came to the conclusion that Tier III and Tier IV are not ready this year . . . so senior project will be more or less not mandatory," Schmidt said.

Tier I and Tier II employ the traditional senior project requirements. New this year were Tiers III and IV, which were designed for students who did not traditionally pursue project because of low grades, behavior or attendance problems.

The main problem with the Dec. 15 deadline was the lack of time available for both the advisers and students to get organized. According to Schmidt, the advisers were "overzealous and too ambitious."

"[There were] too many questions that we didn't have answers for," Schmidt said.

Seniors felt that having less than two weeks to produce an idea for project was not enough. "It was last minute, and I felt like no one understood [the guidelines]," senior Arabia Sayles said.

"I wasn't really specific about which two sheets to turn in," Schmidt said of the applications due Dec. 15. Although understanding has improved with the posting of the senior project guidelines on the high school website, they were not available for the first deadline.

Additionally, complaints mounted after the announcement of mandatory senior project. "A lot of feedback we'd gotten was that people weren't accepting this change," said Schmidt, whose main goal was to "respect the wishes of the learning community." Senior complaints accumulated into a petition—Students Against Ridiculous Requirements--last month. Garnering more than 200 signatures by its second day of circulation, according to Schmidt, STARR was a factor, but not the sole cause of the change.

STARR founder Dylan Hogan-Drexler was pleased about the change. "I know that there are some kids who were struggling just to pass and it's good that they won't have another requirement," he said.

The senior project advisers also considered whether project would benefit all students. Students with jobs, and those on vocational programs and with military ambitions were not considered when making the guidelines.

The 323 project applications submitted thus far will not force seniors to continue with project. According to Schmidt, students can verbally back out, but he strongly encourages them to continue. "The more people who go on senior project, the more people will benefit."

Parsons takes many talents to middle school

BY NATALIE VICCHIO
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

The high school's loss is the middle school's gain.

Janell Parsons, who for 7.5 years served as administrative secretary and personal assistant to Principal Michael Griffith, returned to the middle school Jan. 5 as head secretary. And she will be missed.

"There are probably very few staff members, parents and students who she has not helped make their experience here a good one," Griffith said.

Parsons' colleague Mae Morrical, main office secretary and receptionist, said that in addition to her job requirements, Parsons did everything from giving lunch money to students and substituting for the nurse to providing technical support.

"She was too nice to say, 'No, I can't,' " Morrical said.

Parsons' organizational skills were vital to Griffith. She color-coded his folders and coordinated his schedule. Parsons also calmed distressed parents and students.

"My job was to help everyone. That's what I did," Parsons said.

Parsons said she wanted to go back to the middle school, where she worked for a year before coming to the high school. "I wanted a chance to work with Dr. [Randy] Yates," she said. While her new position is quieter and less stressful, Parsons noted the one negative is less student interaction. She misses seeing and helping students.

Secretary Annette Sankey said she grew close to Parsons and that she will miss "the teasing and camaraderie between the two of us. We have a lot of things in common . . . it's almost like we're sisters."

Parsons said, "This is like leaving your family . . . I'll miss everyone terribly."

Parsons

"She was the heart of the high school...she did everything"

Mae Morrical
Main office secretary

www.oskarlewis.com

LEGGINGS: BETTER OFF LEFT IN THE '80S

Leggings are not pants. We know that the '80s fashion trend has hit the halls, but it is imperative you cover your butt. Sheer leggings are not appropriate for school. While a dress and leggings, or even a long shirt and leggings are completely OK, being able to see the top of leggings is not acceptable. Fishnet stockings are also neither pants nor acceptable for an academic setting. This is a school, not a street corner; get dressed for school.

JULIA CELESTE

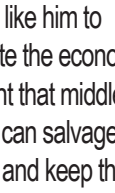
Shaker Speaks

1.14.09

WHAT SHOULD OBAMA TACKLE FIRST?

"I would like him to stimulate the economy to the point that middle class people can salvage their homes and keep their jobs. I'd like to see him institute universal healthcare . . . I think that health care should be a right and not a privilege."

Brian Siggers
sophomore



"I would really like him to find more public funding for public schools."

Becca Christman
freshman

WHY WAS SENIOR PROJECT MANDATORY?

"I believe the administration made senior project mandatory for graduation to influence kids to help out in society."

Ryan Thurman
junior

"This is a conspiracy, see, they don't want you to take finals because it's more for the teachers to have them make up a final, they just want all the students to fail."

Duane Horton
junior

Photo Illustration by Diana Jack

KEEPING OBAMA HONEST AND ACCOUNTABLE

• The Editorial Board explains which promises Obama should keep, and why

Many Shaker students canvassed for Barack Obama, wore T-shirts depicting him and took part in rallies. It is important, however, after electing any official, to hold him to his word, lest he/she disappoint. This election was the first that youth participated in en masse, and if Obama were to utterly fail in following up with his promises, it would guarantee future apathy. Therefore, we encourage those who voted for President-elect Obama to nag, pester and harangue until he enacts the reforms they elected him to perform. George W. Bush's promise to find Osama Bin Laden, his pledge to refrain from nation-building, and his assurance of affordable healthcare went unfulfilled, not to mention his blunders in national security, diplomacy and the economy. The Rite Idea proposes that these are issues that can -- and must-- be solved, and Obama must stand fast on, even given the state of the economy.

'rite idea

Obama has promised to divert troops from Iraq to Afghanistan, and as the shoe-throwing journalist and the Arab show of solidarity behind him demonstrate, we are fighting the wrong war in the wrong place for people who don't want a democracy foisted upon them. Obama must attempt to sit down and negotiate and make use of "soft power," or diplomacy, without any preconditions. It is not naïve to try to compromise and minimize costs. It is, however, ill-advised to refuse the opportunity to talk with the enemy, waiting for an olive branch while both sides rack up casualties.

No Child Left Behind has been an abject failure that does not benefit Shaker and new teachers often find themselves leaving within five years. College tuition has increased by 431 percent within the last two decades while the median family income has remained stagnant. College, like healthcare, faces the same problem of limitless demand, which is why schools can hike tuition. Obama has called for less focus on tests such as the OGT as measures of a successful school. He has promised to make the first $4,000 of college education free with 100 hours of community service. Also, the president-elect has proposed benefits for teachers and has hinted at merit pay. All of these lead us to believe he can improve education, but only if he follows through.

Perhaps the most overlooked of Obama's promises was for government transparency. The past eight years have been dismal because of constant government secrecy and corporate influence. Obama has already created a website where Americans can give input at change.gov. He has promised to launch an Internet database of lobbying and ethics information and a "sunlight period" in which Americans can review a bill on the president's desk.

All are valid pledges, and Obama must honor them if he is to count on us in 2012.

Senior speaks out against racist views of Muslims

A virulent yearlong episode of hate went unnoticed in this country. Analysts asserted that Barack Obama was the victim of "racial discrimination." But this racism – if you must call it that – was the most noticeable news story around. Every American with an email inbox knew of The Muslim Question.

guest 'rite

So did racism creep its way into this election? Not really – but anti-Muslim sentiments were abound. Being Muslim was considered an insult, an affront to person dignity, and attack on peaceful values. Have we forgotten that Islam is more widely practiced than Christianity and Judaism combined worldwide? Ignorance blinds us from realizing the emotional atrocities we commit every time we shudder at the thought of a president swearing on the Koran. Islamic extremists exist, but there are over one billion human beings who peacefully practice this religion. Do we really have such disrespect for a sixth of the world's population? Islam was zipped up in a punching bag for the last year, and Americans took their punches.

Our own fear-stricken pathos filled with images of hijackers and explosions allows us to commit the same fallacy of thinking as our extremist "enemies" in the Middle East. We are American so they hate us; they are Islamic so we hate them. As an active member of perhaps the most persecuted religion in human history, I am ashamed that my own community and others have not spoken out against this injustice.

Jacob Hutt

Barack Obama is an outstanding individual, no matter what religion he practices. The idea that labeling him "Muslim" should have any major political influence (good or bad) is disgraceful. Rather than using the word "Muslim" as a diss, find out what it really means.

Raider Zone

01.14.09

FEMALE HOCKEY PLAYERS MAKE IT TO THE ICE

At a Friday night Shaker hockey game, girls are more likely to be found behind the glass than on the ice, but senior Joanie Clougherty begs to differ. "Yes I get hit, but I hit people too," said Clougherty regarding the brutal intensity of the sport. Shaker hockey, typically dominated by men, was invaded this year by a substantial contingency of female players. Clougherty's only complaints are the late practices causing unfinished homework, similar to the other hockey players. Though the 5'2" right wing bruiser will graduate this year without a varsity letter, the remaining female players all have a chance to take the ice as varsity Red Raiders in years to come.

COLIN JACKSON

WITH FANS LIKE THESE, WHO NEEDS RIVALRIES?

THE STANDS AT Thornton Park will not feature Shaker and University School fans this season. Shaker Hockey Coach Mike Bartley made the decision to cancel this year's game against University School. During last year's game, the fans from both sides became too rowdy for either coach's taste, and Bartley told Shaker Athletic Director Don Readance to cancel right away. Rowdy behavior is not a new thing at hockey games, as fans scream obscene and tasteless chants at the other team rather than focusing on the game. The fans seem to be more disappointed about the decision than the Shaker hockey players, as the Raiders have lost the U.S. contest in recent years.

Photo Illustration by Alexa Sykes

• Fed up with vulgar fans, Bartley ices U.S. vs. Shaker hockey game

BY JOAN THOMPSON
STAFF REPORTER

Head hockey coach Michael Bartley decided not to reschedule the annual Shaker vs. University School hockey game because of poor fan behavior.

Bartley felt fan behavior was out of control at last year's game. "At the end of the first period, I walked up to the University School coach, and I told him, 'I will not be rescheduling the game next year,' " Bartley said. "Behavior of fans is really disgusting. I had enough."

Bartley said the fans were not respecting the game. "The fans need to learn how to appreciate the skill and what's going on on the ice," he said.

Shaker Athletic Director Don Readance said problems between the two schools do not exist in other sports. "The school is not spending time trying to come up with a plan to stop the vulgar chants. We play University School in basketball and football and don't have these problems," he said in an email message. "There seemed to be an incorrect belief that these chants were 'acceptable' at U.S./Shaker hockey games," he said.

Bartley and Readance are open to scheduling the game in a few years. "If the school administration chooses to make a better environment for the game, I will think about scheduling a game in future years," Bartley said.

U.S. Athletic Director Ronald Grant was also optimistic about future games. "Both Don Readance and I went with our coaches' feelings, and we hope that the rivalry might be continued in a few years," Grant said in an email message.

According to Shaker junior center Harry Williams, Shaker coaches did not publicize the decision to players. He said no one asked about the cancellation.

Sophomore right wing Ian Brody said coaches explained the decision. "They said that since we got demoted to a lower division, we wouldn't be playing them."

After Shaker left the Red North last season, the game was no longer mandatory. Last year, the game was scheduled independently. "I think that not having to play the game was something that enabled both schools not to schedule it. My biggest concern was the safety of both players and fans during the game, but more significantly after the game. I remember a few years prior that there was a fight in the parking lot," Beard said.

Williams said Shaker and U.S. were on different levels. "They're pretty good this year," he said.

Senior right wing Bob Cirillo, a four-year varsity player, also felt that U.S. would probably win. "I think that the team itself doesn't care that much because we know we would probably lose," he said. Cirillo added that Shaker hockey fans were more disappointed than the players.

After an 8-2 rout last year, Brody was looking forward to avenging the loss. "I wasn't on the team last year," he said. "I think it would have been a lot closer this year than last year."

Beard did not hear the fans' chants during games. "During the game I am not really listening to the crowd. Most of my information comes from people telling me what was said. When I first started it was intense but kept pretty clean."

Beard felt that the game became a competition between fans. "Unfortunately over the years things have grown and it was as if the next crowd wanted to push it to another level above the previous year," he said. Beard said although there were problems at other U.S. games, the Shaker rivalry was more intense.

Readance hopes the break will help fan behavior. He said, "Perhaps not playing for a couple years will bring the game back to what it should be -- a hockey game and not an embarrassing spectacle."

FANS SPEAK ON RIVALRY CANCELLATION

"I look forward to the rivalry every year. When I found out it was canceled, I was pretty angry. Steve Coon, junior

"The University School game always brought out the worst in everyone, but lately students have been showing improvement at the games since previous years." -Math teacher Walter Slovikovski

"It sucks there is no game this year. It was my favorite hockey game of the year." Theo Albano, junior

Sophomore Captain Goodman leads hockey with words and actions

BY PATRICK POHLMAN
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

When it came time for sophomore defender and team captain Aaron Goodman to face one of life's most stressful tasks, he didn't worry.

Like everything he does in hockey, Goodman excelled in his first pre-game speech.

"I told the team to come out quick on the first shift. Keep the game simple, and play for your teammates and not the crowd," he said.

Aaron Goodman

Playing since he was 4, Goodman heard many pre-game speeches from coaches and teammates and said he feels comfortable saying anything in front of his team.

Despite being a sophomore, Goodman won respect from his teammates as they appointed him captain because of his playing ability and leadership.

Last year Goodman made the Red East all-star team and this year added captain to his résumé. Goodman was appointed captain by a secret ballot voted on by his teammates.

"He's a great role model, works hard, always is on time and takes drills very seriously," Head Coach Mike Bartley said.

Hockey has always been Goodman's best sport.

"My strengths are defense, passing and my speed . . . I have a pretty good shot but I don't score many goals," Goodman said.

"Aaron stresses the importance of hard work, playing with heart and pride, as well as teamwork and encouragement," senior defender Max Cross said.

"It doesn't matter what grade he is in. He is our captain."

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>
> Max Cross
> senior